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A Flying Visit

GRACE M. FAIRLEY
President, The Canadian Nurses Association

On referring to the constitution of the Canadian Nurses Association, one finds that its first object is *to promote national unity among the nurses of Canada*. It was my great privilege during Easter week, to attend the annual meetings of the three mid-western provinces — Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. Although the value of such a visit might readily be questioned by the Provincial Associations, to a member of the National Executive it was rich in professional and personal experience. Of necessity, owing to distance and lack of time, contact with the nine provinces during each biennium must be limited. This recent experience was, therefore, very welcome because it enabled one to meet and to know the provincial members in a very personal way. Equally valuable were the opportunities of talking with groups of the younger members of our Association who have not yet been able to attend national conventions, as well as of renewing friendships with some of the older members.

The programmes were excellently arranged, and as these will be discussed in greater detail elsewhere, I will not do more than say that each provincial association is to be complimented on the interesting, educative, and practical nature of every session. It was particularly interesting to note the similarity in the topics under discussion, showing clearly that whether in Manitoba or British Columbia, Alberta or Prince Edward Island, such matters as district units, problems of the public health nurse in the isolated area, the private duty nurse, nursing standards and curricula, inclusion of the practical nurse

on the local Bureaux, revised legislation, are all matters that concern every provincial association — in other words, they are matters of national concern.

Informal conferences were arranged at luncheon or dinner with the members of the provincial executives and also with the four members of the national executive in each province. It was thus possible to hear at first hand about subjects of major importance which are demanding the attention of provincial associations. Members of the national executive (who have been unable to attend recent executive meetings) were informed concerning the affairs of the Canadian Nurses Association, as well as receiving their opinion on many important points that have arisen since the 1938 convention.

One realizes more than ever that the Canadian Nurses Association must represent the voice and opinion of the provincial associations, and that its strength lies in the unity so well set forth in its constitution. The provincial associations must more and more *use* the national association, and the Canadian Nurses Association must *use* the provincial associations. A point of particular interest was learning to know the women who, through committees and sections, are making such excellent contributions to their professional organizations.

Another of our objectives is to stimulate in the members an active interest in community welfare. There could be no doubt of our living up to this exhortation when listening to the thoroughly open-minded discussions in every province on the question of registries or bureaux in relation to public needs, or the hearing of such reports as the one given by the convener of the committee related to the Council of Social Agencies in Manitoba. Excellent demonstrations were given, and the needs of the small hospitals were not eclipsed by those of the large, or the rural public health programme by that of the possibly more spectacular urban area.

The guest speakers in each province were evidently chosen for their ability to contribute something of vital importance to meet professional needs. The president of the University of Saskatchewan, in his address, entitled "Woman's new place in the world", left a real challenge with us when he referred to the rather negative influence of women in the Cause of Peace.

Miss Katherine Densford, Director of the University of Minnesota School of Nursing, was a generous contributor, in addresses and discussions, at both the Saskatchewan and Manitoba meetings. In two provinces, the question of which section the general duty or staff nurse should belong, brought out the important point that it is to this young member that we look for the future head nurse, and there everything should be done to encourage her attendance at the Nursing Education Section meetings.

The Canadian Nurse was much in evidence in each centre, and it was interesting to note the various efforts to create interest. In Alberta there were two delightful posters, the work of students of the School of Nursing of the Royal Alexandra Hospital, one depicting a wise old owl, reading the *Journal* by moonlight. In Saskatchewan, there was a booth at which the *Journal* was exhibited among the recommended text and reference books. A member was constantly in attendance, taking orders. The Manitoba Association had copies of the *Journal* in attractive cellophane covers, with "orders taken now" printed on them in large blue letters.

Manitoba was celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary, so one is justified in

referring in rather superlative terms to the entire programme, both professional and social. The choice of speakers, their subject matter, demonstrations, and discussions, climaxed by a delightful banquet, left nothing undone for the educational, professional, and social pleasure and interest of the members and guests. One can well realize the great satisfaction that such an outstanding success must bring to the presiding officer, Miss Edith McDowell, and the enthusiastic executive-secretary, Miss Gertrude Hall.

The one drawback was the hurried nature of the visit, and the fact that one could not remain to discuss with the provincial executive secretaries, those common problems, the solution of which in one province would be of such value in another. Executive secretaries are busy people at annual meetings, but in each province they found time for many additional courtesies.

The members of the Canadian Nurses Association will be interested to know, I am sure, that their President *flew* from Winnipeg to Calgary — her first flight! But it was worthwhile, because the saving of time made it possible to include all three provinces in her itinerary.

Silver Jubilee in Manitoba

The annual meeting of the Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses marked the passing of twenty-five years of organization. Our Silver Jubilee was held in the Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg, April 14 and 15, and the registration of over 300 members indicated the interest in what proved to be a memorable convention. The address of welcome, presented so charmingly by Mrs. John Bracken, was reminiscent of personal experiences of sickness made happy by the ministrations of gentle, capable members of the nursing profession.

Reports of standing and special committees were concise and encouraging. The report of the representative to the Central Council of Social Agencies gave proof of the broad programme of interest which occupies the attention of the Association. The report of the Summer School committee told of the very successful University summer school held in 1938 and set forth the plans for the University's summer school for nurses this year. Of special interest was the report of the survey which is being made to broaden the scope of activities of graduate nurses throughout the Province. Splendid charts, prepared by Miss Eleanor Harvey, revealed the very thorough spade-work that is being done by this committee in an endeavour to open up new fields of nursing activity and thus ameliorate unemployment. Under the convenorship of Miss Jean Houston, the committee on the eight-hour day for nurses showed splendid progress.

The Association has completed its survey of schools, under the direction of Miss Gertrude Hall, and her report revealed that the survey has induced a momentum toward improvement in the schools of nursing and has brought into being a close co-operation between the Association and the schools through the activities of a "surveyor" whose enthusiasm and sympathetic understanding have been a very mine of help.

Miss Katherine Densford, Director of the School of Nursing, University of Minnesota, addressed us on the subject of "The head nurse as a teacher." Miss Densford, through her own stimulating personality, gave a fresh interpretation of the head nurse in her responsibility for making the ward unit a profitable field for better student-learning and better patient-care.

Representatives were received from the Graduate Nurses Associations at Brandon, Dauphin, The Pas, and from the newly-formed groups at Flin Flon and Portage la Prairie. Student delegates were sent as guests from the various schools of the province, Miss Presunka's trip from Saint Anthony's School, The Pas, being a reward for outstanding student achievement.

Much appreciated demonstrations were given of morning conference, bedside clinics, Pavex treatment, indirect blood transfusion, the principles of the Elliott treatment in gynaecological disorders, and the use of the new soft-rubber "tam" which, with the addition of cellu-cotton can be put to so many uses in nursing, including colostomy care.

Adjutant Chapman, of Grace Hospital, demonstrated a new classroom doll with real hair, removable rubber stomach and all sorts of "trap doors" for use in classroom teaching. A splendid array of improvised nursing equipment was shown jointly by Miss McKee of the Victorian Order of Nurses and Miss Baird of the Margaret Scott Mission. This included a home-made wheel chair, back-rests and bed-cradles made of wire coat-hangers. All of these gave proof of the unfailing resourcefulness of the public health nurse.

Professor H. R. Low, Department of Psychology, University of Manitoba, addressed us on the subject of "Education today and tomorrow", pointing out the need, on the part of the teacher, for greater understanding of home and social conditions, and the need for better co-operation and appreciation on the part of the parents for what the teacher is attempting to do in the classroom. Professor Low has been a staunch friend of the Association, particularly of the committee on instruction, to whom he gave a series of lectures at their winter sessions. He is yet another gift from "the land of the heather" and while his accent betrays him at the most unexpected turns, his clear-cut reasoning and keen insight into the foibles and intricacies of the personality of *homo sapiens* in a modern setting, make him a delightful speaker. Professor Low earnestly reminded us that, while the nurse has become a key person in human affairs, her potentialities for becoming a liason between the school and the home have, as yet, been only faintly realized.

Dr. A. M. Davidson added greatly to the programme when he gave an interesting illustrated lecture on dermatology. Then, as a special treat, he showed us a few of his own lovely coloured scenes from Scotland.

The Winnipeg General Hospital School of Nursing Glee Club made a delightful contribution of songs to the Friday afternoon session and increased our appreciation of the need for and value of extra-curricular activities in the undergraduate period. On Saturday morning we added a new feature to our programme in the form of a Round Table conference. Mimeographed copies of the questions to be discussed were circulated throughout the audience. Members were invited to contribute from the floor but were limited to two-minute periods in order to increase the opportunity for variety of opinion. Debate was very active, every minute being utilized.

The executive-secretary, Miss Gertrude Hall, (left) and Miss Edith McDowell, president, (right) find the discussion from the floor very interesting.

The banquet, presided over by Miss Emily Parker, was attended by 225 people. Honour guests included Miss Grace Fairley, President of the Canadian Nurses Association, Miss Katherine Densford, Dr. Sidney Smith, President of the University, Dr. D. S. Woods, Dean of Education, Dr. A. T. Mathers, Dean of Medicine and Dr. G. F. Stephens. Solos and readings were contributed by guest artists, while an orchestra added refreshing lighter touches to a gala occasion. Miss Densford, as guest speaker, reminded us that other professions have long since availed themselves of those facilities within the University which, "just around the corner" await utilization by the nursing profession and that in nurse education we stand in need of what the University can provide in the development of the woman as well as the nurse.

It was a great pleasure to have Miss Fairley, our National President, with us on our twenty-fifth birthday. Miss Fairley in her quiet, charming way, gave us much help and good advice and greatly strengthened the bonds between our association and the Canadian Nurses Association. She had hurried away from the annual meeting in Saskatchewan and her many duties necessitated her departure from Winnipeg by plane in the early hours of Sunday morning. We were sorry to have her go.

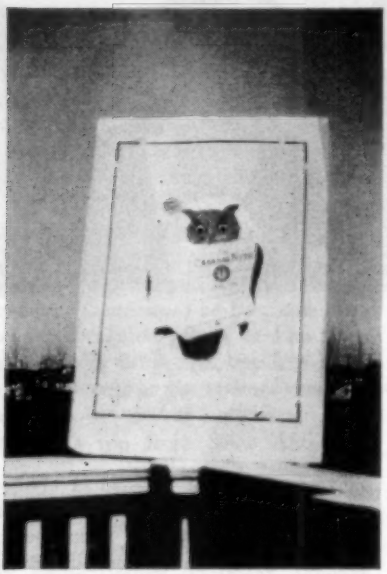
A fashion parade closed the convention. Some of our "younger set" very charmingly modelled the latest word in smart street costumes by "Logan Knit." It was felt unanimously that the convention had been outstanding in its variety of programme and its healthy interchange of new ideas in nursing.

Miss Evelyn Mallory is our new President. Miss Mallory is Superintendent of Nurses, in the Children's Hospital of Winnipeg, and has been closely associated with us for a number of years, having served on our Board of Managers and on many of our special committees.

EDITH M. MCDOWELL

Retiring President,
Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses

Annual Meeting in Alberta



The twenty-first annual convention of the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses was held in Edmonton April 11 and 12 at the Masonic Temple with 150 nurses registered from north and south, remote and near, also student nurses from the four Edmonton Schools of Nursing. At the registration desk, there were two posters advertising *The Canadian Nurse*. The first one that arrested our attention was a very realistic painting of a wise old owl wearing a nurse's cap and reading *The Canadian Nurse*. A second poster was a typical picture of our Canadian nurse. These posters were made by Miss June Smith and Miss Mabel Lowden, junior student nurses at the School of Nursing of the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Edmonton.

In the course of her introductory address, the President, Miss Kate S. Brighty, introduced Miss Grace M. Fairley, President of the Canadian Nurses Association, who made her first appearance in Alberta as national President, an occasion to be marked with a great deal of appreciation and happiness for us. Miss Brighty also drew attention to the fact that next year Alberta throws open its doors to Miss Fairley, her Executive and the delegates from the whole Dominion for the Biennial Meeting of the Canadian Nurses Association which is to be held at Banff. Miss Brighty reviewed some of the activities of the Association with reference to the revision of the Minimum Curriculum undertaken by the Instructor's Group, sponsored by the Nursing Education Section. The formation of Districts in the Province has also been one of the main objectives. The stimulus given to local organizations was to be found in the direct link it forges between provincial, national and international groups. Miss Brighty expressed appreciation to the President of the University of Alberta, Dr. Kerr, for his consideration and graciousness at all times and to the Registrar, Mr. A. E. Ottewell for his ready understanding of educational problems and the advice he so wisely and generously gives the Association.

The Registrar's report revealed a 10 percent membership increase as at December, 1938, there being 1237 members in good standing. By way of international interest, the Secretary reported an application from the General Nursing Council of Ireland respecting reciprocal registration. National Enrolment of Nurses for Emergency Service showed 125 nurses enrolled, but still below the objective of 170.

Miss Agnes Macleod, the Association's representative on the Committee for the Inspection of Schools of Nurs-

ing, commented on the decided improvement in standards and conduct of nursing education in the Province during the past six years. Numerous recommendations have been carried out, an excellent understanding has been established between the Committee and the staffs of the various Schools and an attitude of co-operation is evident. One observation noted by the Committee was that there were too many schools of nursing.

Regional districts (and a representative from each) have been appointed to be responsible to the provincial convener Miss V. Chapman, for both news and subscriptions to *The Canadian Nurse*. Alumnae Associations have been asked to devote a part of their business sessions to discussion of "Pointed Questions and Apt Answers" with the hope of encouraging subscriptions. A 10 percent increase is reported; we aim for 100 percent.

A progress report on the eight-hour day for nurses was given by the representative Miss A. E. Pederson. Activities consisted largely of investigation into present practices in the training schools. Alberta's yearly financial support to the Florence Nightingale Memorial Fund was reported, by Miss Gertrude Allyn, as most satisfactory.

Miss B. A. Emerson, convener of the Legislation Committee, led a discussion on the proposed amendments to the Registered Nurses Act and by-laws. The principal changes anticipated are the raising of the entrance requirement to Schools of Nursing to Normal School Entrance and University Matriculation; the method of election of officers; and provision for the formation of Districts and their by-laws.

The President reported that in forming local districts as parts of the Provincial Association, the Council made its approach through local associations already formed in the cities of Medicine Hat, Calgary, Drumheller, Lethbridge and Edmonton. In addition to these five, two districts, one in the northern part of the Province, covering what is known as the Peace River and Grande Prairie country, and another in the centre of the Province radiating from Ponoka, each signified willingness to become a district. The acceptance of these centres as the nuclei of Provincial Districts was unanimously passed by the nurses in convention.

Many social functions were arranged prior to and during the convention. Miss Agnes Macleod was a charming tea hostess in the drawing room of the Macdonald Hotel in honour of Miss Fairley. Miss Macleod's guests were members of the faculty and their wives, government officials and their wives and representatives from various nursing organizations in Edmonton. To meet Miss Fairley and the graduating class of the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Miss Margaret Fraser very graciously received in the spacious living rooms of the Residence at the tea hour. An "executive" dinner with the Chairmen of the three Sections and Miss Fairley was also arranged. A banquet, presided over by Miss Macleod, president of the Edmonton Graduate Nurses Association, and sponsored by them, was held with Miss Fairley as the guest speaker, her topic being "The Public and Us". Miss Fairley indicated the contribution that a nurse can make to the health programme of the community, in bringing health needs before the public. Miss Fairley particularly stressed the enrolment of nurses for emergency service and suggested the appointing of a credentials committee. At noon on Tuesday, Miss Brighty, the Provincial President, entertained delightfully in honour of Miss Fairley and the representatives from the various centres.

Although the meetings were mainly devoted to business rather than addresses or lectures, it was gratifying to note the active part that the younger nurses of the Association took in the discussions and when they left us by train, car and plane, one felt that the two-day convention had been put to good use. Those who took a prominent part in the deliberations as official representatives were: Miss Elizabeth Pearston, O.B.E., Grande Prairie; Miss Gilchrist, Medicine Hat; Miss Thomas and Miss Papworth, Lethbridge; Miss M. E. Jones and Miss Gene Findlay, Drumheller; Miss Reid and Miss Connor, Calgary; and Miss C. N. Jackson, Ponoka.

We especially wish to express appreciation to the press for the generous and understanding manner in which our meetings were reported.

A. E. VANGO,
Secretary,
Alberta Association of Registered Nurses

R. N. A. O. Annual Meeting

The fourteenth annual meeting of the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario was held in the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, on April 13, 14, and 15, 1939. The ball room, in which the meetings were held, was filled to capacity at each session. Among those attending were many of the younger nurses, and it was encouraging to note the keen interest displayed and the part they took in discussions. The student nurses, who are our future members, were well represented by 56 students sent from the training schools for nurses in various parts of the Province, and 29 from the schools in connection with the hospitals in Toronto.

The president, Miss Constance Brewster, presided, and at the opening session referred to the recent death of two valued members of the Association, Miss Ella J. Jamieson, a past-president of the Graduate Nurses Association of Ontario, who was active in securing registration for nurses in Ontario; and Miss Laura Gamble, who was chairman of the District Association in which the meeting was being held. The members of the Association, in convention assembled, expressed their appreciation of the contributions made by these two members to nursing and the nursing profession.

A well attended open meeting was held on the first evening, when the Association was fortunate to have Dr. William Boyd, professor of pathology and bacteriology, University of Toronto, as the guest speaker. Dr. Boyd's subject, "Cancer Research", was one of special interest to the profession, as well as to the public, and it was a privilege to hear this instructive and interesting address. At this meeting the Association was pleased to have present representatives from the Ontario Medical Association and from the Ontario Hospital Association, who extended greetings.

The delegates attending the annual banquet, when Mr. C. R. Sanderson, Chief Librarian of the Toronto Public Libraries, was the guest speaker, thor-

oughly enjoyed the address, "Sense and Nonsense". This evening was a pleasant ending of the first two days of the Convention.

The business meetings of the three Sections were held on Friday morning and were well attended. At the meeting of the Nurse Education Section, Miss Maude Wilkinson, superintendent of nurses, Toronto Hospital for Consumptives, read a paper on "The advantages of an affiliated course in the nursing of tuberculosis"; following this was a case study written and read by one of the affiliated students, and another read a paper entitled, "A Résumé of my Affiliation at Weston". Miss Lorna Horwood, superintendent of nurses, Ontario Hospital, London, contributed a paper on "The advantage of an affiliation course in psychiatric nursing", as part of the basic course. Two case studies, done by students shortly after their affiliated course, showing how they had learned to apply psychiatric teaching to general nursing, were read. The Private Duty Section reported that progress is noted in the definite acceptance of the eight-hour day in centres where the plan is adopted, and in the pursuit of post-graduate studies in psychiatric nursing, pediatrics, obstetrics and laboratory work. Excellent reports from the District Associations were presented by their chairmen.

The Membership Committee reported that the number of renewals received to date in 1939 exceeded those during the previous year, thus indicating a keener interest in the Association and in their individual responsibility to their professional organization among those who had allowed their membership to lapse.

The Committee in connection with the Administration of the Permanent Education Fund reported that, during the past three years, nine loans had been

CONSTANCE E. BREWSTER
President, Registered Nurses Association of Ontario

granted to the total amount of $2,200.00. To be eligible to make application for a loan, a nurse must be a member of the Association for at least one year. One of the changes in the policy of the administration of this Fund adopted by the general meeting was, in order that the Fund be systematically built up, that in 1940 each member be taxed twenty-five cents as an experiment towards raising funds, for one year only.

A report presented by the convener of the Committee on Economic Security for Nurses showed that a careful study of this question was being made. The contributions received in 1939 towards the Florence Nightingale Memorial Fund amounted to $765.00. The committee announced that moving pictures taken by Miss McCorquodale, an International student at Bedford

College last year, were available and may be rented by nursing organizations or schools of nurses. We recommend this film highly; the pictures are most interesting, and the Committee hopes in this way to stimulate interest in the Course and also to increase the Fund.

The special Committee appointed to promote the circulation of *The Canadian Nurse*, with Miss Margaret Dulmage as convener, is planning for special activity within the Province. The Committee held a luncheon meeting and were pleased that Miss Ethel Johns, editor of the *Journal*, was present. The Association appreciated the privilege of having Miss Johns attend the Convention, and "Editorially Speaking", address the general meeting.

The Committee on "Eight-Hour Duty for Nurses" and the Committee on "Registries and Bureaux" were two important Special Committees, whose reports indicate activity during the coming year. A report of great interest to all members was that of the activities of the Council of Nurse Education which, in the absence of the chairman, Miss Gertrude Bennett, was presented by Miss A. M. Munn, Director, Nurse Registration.

A Symposium, entitled "How may we provide adequate Nursing Service for all who require it," was presented on Friday afternoon. The great interest evoked by it was evident from the fact that the auditorium was filled to capacity, and it proved to be the highlight of the business sessions. Miss Edna Moore, Chief Public Health Nurse, Ontario Department of Health, spoke on "The Nursing Needs of a Community"; Miss E. Kathleen Russell, Director, School of Nursing, University of Toronto, spoke on "The Preparation of the Nurse for the Service that is needed from her"; Miss Madalene Baker, chairman, Private Duty Section, spoke on "How may a Registry be organized to supply the Nursing Service needed by the Community." The discussion was opened by Miss Jean I. Gunn, superintendent of nurses, Toronto General Hospital. In their breadth of view and frank discussion of present day problems, as well as in their suggestions for future activities of the Association, these addresses were an inspiration to those present.

The professional and educational exhibits were of great interest to the delegates, and the Association owes a debt of gratitude to the convener of this committee for her work in making arrangements for this excellent display. The Association appreciated the privilege granted them by the Association of Registered Nurses of the Province of Quebec in allowing their exhibit to be an attractive feature of *The Canadian Nurse* booth. The display of this unique exhibit will surely promote a larger circulation of our national nursing journal.

Social functions were interspersed with business. The evening before the opening of the general meetings the Board of Directors were the guests of the Executive of District Five at a dinner at the Granite Club. On Thursday afternoon the nurses of District Five entertained the delegates at a tea and "treasure hunt" in the Royal Ontario Museum. The student nurses were entertained at a luncheon, given by the Toronto Inter-school Student Nurse Association, at the University of Toronto School of Nursing.

The officers elected were: President, Miss Constance Brewster; First Vice-President, Miss Jean L. Church; Second Vice-President, Miss Mildred I. Walker; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Matilda E. Fitzgerald.

MATILDA E. FITZGERALD,
Secretary-treasurer, Registered Nurses Association of Ontario.

The Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada

Delegates from all parts of Canada assembled in Ottawa early in April at the Annual Meeting of the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada. These men and women who voluntarily give of their time and substance to the end that the sick in Canada shall receive skilled nursing care and be taught the principles of healthful living, met together to discuss what had been accomplished during the past year and to plan for the future.

The main topic of the meetings, namely, what part shall be played by the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada in the public health programme of the future, ran like a brightly coloured thread through the warp and woof of discussion throughout the two-day conference. As in the business world, so with the voluntary agency, many problems present themselves in these uncertain troublous times. Faced with reduced income and increased expenditure on the one hand, and a crying need for service in many parts of Canada on the other, those responsible for the work of the Order must make important decisions, not forgetting that the work of the voluntary agency must always be supplementary to that of the official agency.

Thought was clarified and encouragement and inspiration to go on to greater things was given by Dr. Wallace of Queen's University, in his address, "A Layman Looks at the Order". Miss Ruth Houlton, Associate Director of the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, was also very help-

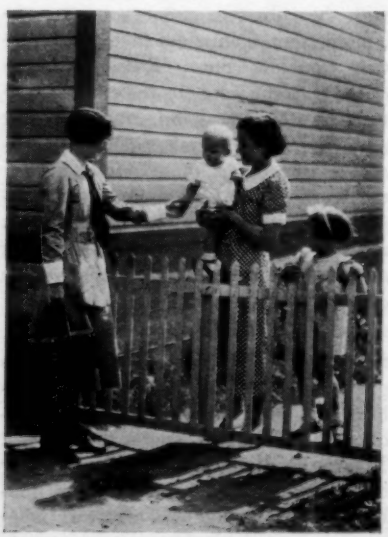
ful in her interpretation of the subject. Valuable contributions to the discussion were made by Miss Charlotte Whitton, of the Canadian Welfare Council, who emphasized the importance of thoughtful planning of health programmes, and by Dr. Wherritt of the Canadian Tuberculosis Association. Mr. J. H. Mowbray Jones, President of the Liverpool Branch of the Order, concluded his address with these words:

> Our social system, though far from perfect, we nevertheless feel is worth preserving — and one of the strong forces that helps to balance this system is the volunteer institution with its democratic methods, its directness, its more personal influence, its educational value, its position of liaison between the public and the state and, last but by no means least, its fine tradition of unselfish service.

A note of regret was sounded when the resignation of the Right Honourable George P. Graham, as president of the Order, was announced. Mr. Graham accepted the presidency in December, 1927, at the request of Viscountess Willingdon, and during eleven years of devoted service has endeared himself to all who worked with him. Mr. Hugh Fleming, honourary secretary, expressed the thoughts of those present when he said:

> The Order has gone forward under his wise and benevolent guidance but the intense regret at the loss of his leadership is tempered by the hope of having the benefit of his counsel for many years to come.

A presentation was made to Senator and Mrs. Graham, on behalf of the Board of Governors, by Mrs. William Dennis, C.B.E., of Halifax. Mr. Justice Gregor Barclay, of Montreal, expressed appreciation of the long years of devoted service given by the president and wished him many years of happiness and health. Mrs. George Black, M.P., seconded Mr. Barclay's good wishes. The esteem and affection of the nurses for Mr. Graham was expressed in a vote of appreciation tendered by Miss Maude Hall, assistant superintendent of the Order, and seconded by Miss Margaret Moag, superintendent of the Montreal Branch. The Hon. Henry Hague Davis, M.A., L.L.D., was welcomed as the new president of the Order.



Through the courtesy of the Canadian Medical Association, under whose auspices Sir John Boyd Orr visited Canada, the delegates were privileged to hear his address on "Health, Agriculture, and Economic Prosperity" at the evening session held on April 13, presided over by the president of the Victorian Order of Nurses. The following day, Miss Marion Harlow, nutritionist of the Montreal Branch, gave a very practical explanation of what is being accomplished in that district in teaching the patients' families how to budget, what foods to choose, and how to prepare them.

The report of the Advisory Commit-

tee on Nursing, presented by Miss Beatrice Belcourt in the absence of Mrs. R. L. Blackburn, showed that over a five-year period 63 nurses had been assisted in taking post-graduate work in order to be better prepared for their work. Two regional conferences for nurses were held, one in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the other in Hamilton, Ontario.

The Hon. Cairine Wilson, in her report of the work of the Publicity and Education Committee, told of the various means that had been used to interpret the work of the Order to the public so that those who needed the service would use it where it was available and that interest in organization might be aroused in centres where the sick are not being adequately cared for.

The report of nursing activities for 1938 was given by Miss Elizabeth Smellie, C.B.E., R.R.C., the Chief superintendent. Victorian Order nurses gave care to 84,697 patients in 765,969 visits in the 89 centres operating in Canada in 1938. Of these visits it is interesting to note that 8 percent were fully paid for by the patients, 16 percent partly paid, 17 percent paid for by insurance companies, and 59 percent were free. One might conclude from these figures that had visiting nursing not been available to these patients the majority would not have received skilled nursing care. During the year, five new branches were opened — namely, Surrey, in British Columbia; Amherst, in Nova Scotia; Leamington, Chatham, and Peninsula, in Ontario. In Nova Scotia, Liverpool extended its boundaries to take in the towns of Brooklyn and Milton, and the branch at Glace Bay was closed.

A fairly large turnover of staff was reported. Sixty-nine appointments were made, and forty-four resignations accepted. Twenty of the nurses resigning did do so in order to be married. Miss Smellie spoke of the difficulty of obtaining fully qualified public health nurses at the present time. With the co-operation of the Montreal Branch, two months of intensive training was given to a limited number of nurses who intend taking public health training within a year or two. These nurses are given temporary employment with the understanding that when they have completed the public health course in university they will return to the Order.

"Father's Day"

A study of 10,000 maternity records was made in 1938 and a preliminary report submitted by Dr. Phair. Studies of the quality and cost of the service were made in the Toronto and Montreal Branches by Miss Johnson and Mr. Scott of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

Miss Smellie paid tribute to the excellent work done by the nursing staff and made special reference to the contribution made by the supervisors:

Without detracting one iota from the staff nurse, I may say that this winter in going about, my attention has been directed more particularly to the executive directors in both large and small centres and to the staff supervisors. Where do they come in when emphasis is placed on the necessity for reducing hours on duty and of easing the strain? For instance, take the past two months with more patients, reduction of staff owing to illness and relief difficult to obtain, the supervisors have often looked weary and driven, yet invariably there was a smile with the response, "Yes, it has been pretty bad." These are the people who not only carry continuous responsibility, but who act as buffers between the administration and the nursing staff. So that whether it means increased calls with reduced staffs, new regulations to be interpreted, worried relatives asking why their nurse has not yet come, someone who wants a visit at a definite hour, a physician asking for an immediate visit to a patient, a call to an obstetrical case pending, a staff nurse asking for advice in dealing with some problem, a health officer giving an order, a women's organization asking someone to speak at a meeting, a Council of Social Agencies requesting immediately a detailed statement, or someone suggesting that a study be undertaken, each and every inquiry must be dealt with in an intelligent and tactful way.

Thus, in her own words, Miss Smellie demonstrates that spirit of service which through the years has been characteristic of the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada.

BEATRICE E. CREASY
Junior Assistant Superintendent
Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada

British Columbia Annual Meeting

Nurses from many parts of British Columbia gathered in Vancouver on April 14, and 15, to attend the twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Registered Nurses Association of British Columbia, held at the Hotel Vancouver and St. Paul's Hospital. Miss M. Duffield, in her presidential address, reviewed the work of the past year and stressed the need for improvement in working conditions for nurses, stating that until this comes about, the fullest benefit from increased knowledge and training cannot be attained. Miss Duffield expressed satisfaction that for a second time a British Columbia nurse has been chosen for the Florence Nightingale Scholarship, this year's recipient being Miss Mary Henderson of Vancouver. She urged nurses to take advantage of the means within their reach to further the interests of the nursing profession.

Miss Helen Randal, in her report gave an interesting historical sketch of her work as Registrar since the passing of the Registered Nurses' Act twenty-one years ago. During this time Miss Randal has signed over six thousand registration certificates. In her report on training school inspections, Miss Randal reported eight training schools at present operating in the Province,

the school at Prince Rupert to be closed when the present students complete their course. She mentioned the great shortage of qualified instructors, and stated that hospital conditions must be made more attractive before this situation can be remedied.

The press convener, Miss F. Innes, stressed the importance of increasing the circulation of *The Canadian Nurse*, and Mrs. Edith Pringle was appointed to take charge of the campaign for a larger circulation.

At the meeting of the Public Health Section, Miss Heather Kirkpatrick, public health nurse from Cowichan, gave an interesting account of a month spent in the Vancouver General Hospital in an experimental refresher course for public health nurses, arranged through the kindness of Miss Fairley, as a result of plans made at the last annual meeting. Miss Kirkpatrick felt that the knowledge gained, while of great interest, was not of sufficient practical value to her as a public health nurse to warrant adopting the plan. Miss Margaret Kerr, convener of a committee studying the relationship between public health nurses and social workers, read a comprehensive report. It was decided that this Committee should continue for another year, and that the progress report presented should be printed and made available to those requesting it. Miss K. E. Gray, chairman of the Private Duty Section, reported a questionnaire sent out to private duty nurses in an effort to correlate the ideas of the members of that group. A refresher course, held in Victoria, had proved very valuable. The Nursing Education Section, under the chairmanship of Miss Anne Cavers, has been studying working conditions in the hospitals. Miss Alison Reid has been chosen convener of a study committee for the coming year.

At the first general session an interesting address was given by Mr. Robert Straight, Senior Inspector of Schools in Vancouver, on "The New High School Curriculum". Mr. Straight mentioned the important place given to health in present day schools, and the gradual change of emphasis on various subjects. The sessions continued at St. Paul's Hospital in the evening, when Miss C. E. Clark, in the absence of Miss Fairley, presented the report of the Joint Committee for National Enrolment. She outlined the plans made for zoning the country into geographical areas, and the classification of nurses for various types of work. British Columbia is still far from achieving her quota, but many new names have been added in recent weeks. This report was followed by an illustrated talk on "Red Cross Outpost Hospitals", by Miss F. I. Kirkpatrick, and a symposium on "Diabetes in Adults and Children" by a group of five nursing instructors from the Vancouver General Hospital, who presented a comprehensive picture of the symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and the instruction of the diabetic patient in personal hygiene and selection of his diet. At the close of the meeting, refreshments were served by the staff of St. Paul's Hospital.

Saturday afternoon found the convention in session again to hear reports of special committees. Miss E. Stoddart, convener of the Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee, reported over $300. collected during the year.

As convener of the Committee on Districts and Chapters, Miss Helen Randal pointed out the advantages and disadvantages of arrangements whereby local associations would become chapters of the Provincial Association. The meeting voted in favour of going forward with this undertaking and empowered the Committee to study the

situation further and to make plans for the organization of districts and chapters throughout the Province.

An address on "Neurology and Nurses" by Dr. S. E. C. Turvey was well received. Dr. Turvey, after eulogizing nurses, outlined the development of sympathetic understanding of the neurotic patient. A well planned symposium on cancer was presented by an instructor group from Victoria, in charge of Sister Mary Beatrice. The subject was covered under the headings, "Cancer and Nursing Care", "Radiation Therapy", and "Cancer Control".

A banquet, at which Mr. M. E. Nichols spoke on "Sources of Social Progress". closed a very successful and well attended convention.

The officers elected for the coming year are: President, Miss M. Duffield; first vice-president, Miss Margaret E. Kerr; second vice-president, Miss Grace M. Fairley; secretary, Miss F. H. Walker; chairman of Nursing Education Section, Miss A. S. Cavers; chairman of Private Duty Section, Miss M. K. Motherwell; chairman of Public Health Section, Miss M. Henderson. Councillors: Miss Helen Randal, Miss Elizabeth Clark, Miss Helen Archer, Miss K. Sanderson, Sister Mary Gregory.

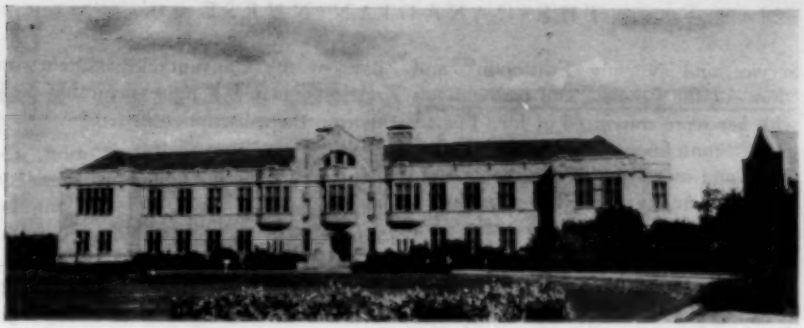
FLORENCE INNES.
Press Convener,
Registered Nurses Association of British Columbia

Records are Broken in Saskatchewan

At the twenty-second annual Convention of the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association, held in Saskatoon on April 12 and 13, several records were broken. Not only did the attendance outnumber, by many, that of previous registrations, but nineteen different centres were represented—a gratifying and significant response to the request to Boards of Directors in hospitals to consider the possibility of relieving members of the nursing staff to attend the meetings. The Reverend Sisters not only attended themselves, but encouraged their nurses to do so. It was indeed a pleasure to welcome many young graduates. Among these was included a member of the Senior Class, an enterprising Alumnae Association having made her presence possible. Congratulations to this Association, the youngest one in the Province.

This Convention was a gathering at which several distinguished guests were present, the setting was unique, sessions began and ended promptly, and the weather was perfect. It is little wonder that the meeting was pronounced a success. As someone said: "There was not a dull moment". Details count, and to the Local Arrangements Committee under the convenership of Mrs. Burton much credit is due.

Miss Ann Morton of Weyburn pre-



One of the buildings of the University of Saskatchewan. The office of the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association is situated here.

sided at all the sessions. Her address was one of inspiration and purpose. It contained not only a review of the activities for the past year, but outlined a programme of objectives for the future. She urged nurses to consider the present and future needs of the people of Canada which, according to the view of those most directly associated with the homes in the communities, must take some form of socialized nursing service. Miss Morton closed her address with this statement: "Through the foresight, tolerance and clear thinking of the members in the past, we have attained certain goals. To hold this line and to continue its development requires the co-operation and support of every member of the Association."

Other highlights of the Convention were the speakers among whom were included Miss Grace Fairley, President of the Canadian Nurses Association; Miss Katharine Densford; Director of the University of Minnesota School of Nursing; the President of the University of Saskatchewan; and others of outstanding ability in their special fields. A demonstration by the Saskatoon Branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses, planned and carried out by Miss Jean Whiteford, supervisor, and Miss Jean MacKay, proved a most popular session and was not only interesting but but of real educational value. "Mrs. McTavish's" problems were those of the expectant mother and recommendations for the solution of them included many lessons in public health nursing and home care. It was an item on the programme enjoyed by both graduate nurses and students. Questions submitted for the Round Table discussion were of interest to all.

A word about our guests and the messages that they brought to us. As usual, Miss Fairley was charming. Her address was an appeal to patriotism in the broadest and finest sense, as well as to professional ideals. It was a great privilege to have Miss Fairley at the meetings. The Canadian Nurses Association seemed very real, and each one of us a part of it.

A most distinct and distinguished asset throughout the whole Convention was our guest speaker from Minneapolis, Miss Katharine Densford. She was not only delightful to meet, a treat to look at and very pleasing to listen to, but she brought to the meetings many messages and suggestions that were both practical and helpful. Those who heard Miss Densford's papers on: "Nursing

Service and Nursing Education" and "For All the People", and had contacts with her were convinced of Dr. Thorndike's contention that: "Intellectual ability and moral worth hang together". In time, many of Miss Densford's words may possibly be forgotten, but she has left enduring and happy impressions. Nurses in Saskatchewan look forward to the day when she will visit them again.

We were all inspired as we read the title of President Thomson's paper "The Silent Revolution: Woman's New Place in the World", but possibly somewhat deflated as we listened to this interesting address. It seemed to carry with it a challenge and a definite suggestion that in spite of all progress, perhaps that revolution has been *too silent* and that we — as women, nurses and citizens — have not assumed our full share of responsibility in directing affairs, especially towards "Peace".

At the business sessions common and special problems were considered. Here again our guests were at hand to suggest and advise. We learned something of what is being accomplished in other centres. Enrolment for War and Emergency Service; ways and means of obtaining shorter hours for both graduate nurses and students; the need for individual insurance against illness and advancing years were all discussed. At meetings of the sections and general sessions the special problems of the private duty, public health and institutional nurse were studied. Most encouraging was the report received from Miss Ruby M. Simpson, as a result of her activities as convener of the Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee. The *Journal* Committee, under the leadership of Miss Aubra Cleaver, proved very active. During the two days of the Convention Saskatchewan nurses regained a more favorable position on the subscription list.

Social events included a most delightful tea at the home of President and Mrs. Thomson. It will long be remembered, as will their interest in all proceedings. At the banquet, the attendance record was again broken and the committee in charge was challenged to make last minute plans to provide for many more than they had expected. Dean Collingwood's much appreciated contribution on the "History of Song" carried us away from nursing. Some of us were glad to hear Dean Collingwood's comment that "those of the Victorian Era" distinguished themselves in the community singing.

The final incident was a tea given by the Alumnae Associations of St. Paul's and the Saskatoon City Hospitals. Received by the Presidents of the two Alumnae — Miss Mathewman and Miss Chisholm — members were given the opportunity of meeting our guests personally. So the twenty-second Convention closed; a Convention of broken records.

The officers elected for the coming year are: President, Miss Ann Morton, Weyburn; First vice-president, Reverend Sister O'Grady, St. Paul's Hospital, Saskatoon; Second vice-president, Miss Edith Amas, Saskatoon City Hospital; Councillors: Miss Matilda Diederichs, Grey Nuns Hospital, Regina; Miss Katherine Morton, Regina; Section Chairmen: Private Duty, Miss Mary R. Chisholm, Saskatoon; Nursing Education, Miss Mary E. Ingham, Moose Jaw General Hospital; Public Health, Miss Myrtle E. Pierce, Wolseley.

Next year the nurses of Saskatchewan are all to meet in Regina. May we all be there!

THE EDITOR'S DESK

Towards National Unity

In this issue of the *Journal* you will find reports of the annual meetings of the Provincial Registered Nurses Associations in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario. Look at the map of Canada and picture the vast territory served by the nurses who belong to these five provincial Associations. Think of the men, women, and children who live more happily and healthfully because skilled nursing care is available in their hour of need. Canadian nurses may well be proud of the part they play in the life of this young nation.

By way of introduction to these reports and serving as a link between them, Grace M. Fairley, president of the Canadian Nurses Association, tells us something of her impressions during her "flying visit" to the Prairie Provinces. Quite recently we foretold, on this page, that our National Association might someday take to the air and almost before the ink was dry on the page, the prophecy came true — the President *flew* from Winnipeg to Calgary!

The president wisely says:

> The provincial associations must more and more *use* the national association and the Canadian Nurses Association must *use* the provincial associations.

Miss Fairley also makes it clear that the Associations, both national and provincial should *use* their own *Journal* to the full extent of its capacity to serve. The current issue does perhaps indicate that slowly but surely they are beginning to do so.

We are grateful to the officers of the various Associations who, by providing such excellent reports, have helped to make this special number possible. Unless these "news stories" appear before their interest has had time to evaporate, they lose the stimulating effect they might otherwise have upon those who were unable to attend the meetings.

The Victorian Order of Nurses

For many years the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada has been recognized as one of the most outstanding visiting nursing services in the world. Observers have come from many countries to study its activities and its methods; they are agreed that its success is based upon sound organization, able leadership, and exceptionally competent personnel. It seems fitting, therefore, that in this issue, which is primarily devoted to national nursing affairs, a description of the annual meeting of the Order should have an honoured place.

A Correction

On page 201 of the April issue of *The Canadian Nurse* an editorial note was appended to an article, entitled "A New Deal for Nurses," stating that the author had asked that it be published anonymously. The author of this article, Miss Kathleen Russell, wishes to make it clear that she did not ask for anonymity. The editor regrets that this error has occurred and is glad to make the necessary correction.

The Story of Vaccination

R. Cameron Stewart, M.D.
Montreal

Smallpox is a disease which under ordinary circumstances is now rarely seen. It is a commonplace to say that many nurses and physicians have never met with a case, and know of it only through descriptions and pictures. Yet in some parts of the world it is still far from unusual, and here and there, even in Canada and the United States, outbreaks occasionally occur. It is not our purpose to discuss this dread disease in detail. Such information can be got from any standard textbook of medicine. A matter of more general interest is the method of protection so widely used against disease, that potent weapon forged by a country doctor in England long ago and known as vaccination.

Smallpox, until its ravages were curbed by the new procedure, was one of the commonest of the communicable diseases. Dreaded because of its easy transmissibility, its high mortality, and all too frequent sequelae of disfiguring scars, it tended to flare into widespread and devastating epidemics. All classes and conditions were liable to attack, and outbreaks were to be looked for in town and country, on ships at sea, in armies on service, at isolated trading posts, and among native tribes in the wilds of Africa and America. Casual contact with the disease could hardly be avoided. So great was the probability of infection that deliberate inoculation with a mild type of smallpox to forestall a perhaps more serious natural attack had long been practised as a measure of protection. The material was obtained from the pustule of an active case, and could be kept for some time and transported with a few simple precautions. Inoculation, although perhaps justified under the conditions of the time, obviously involved very serious risks. A severe rather than a light attack might unfortunately be induced, and scarring and even fatalities were not uncommon. Another danger, not then as adequately realized as it would be now, was the possible transmission of syphilis or other disease which might be present but unrecognized in the donor. Other very valid objections were that the operation tended to keep the infection alive in a community, and even to spread it into healthy areas. So grave were these considerations that inoculation was not universally accepted even when it was the only method of protection available; after the introduction of the safer and almost equally effective vaccination with the modified form of smallpox, represented by cowpox, the older practice everywhere passed out of use.

Edward Jenner practised in a dairying district in the west of England, not very far from Gloucester and about thirty miles from Bath. He was well educated, careful, conscientious, a man of many-sided attainment, physician, naturalist, a lover of country life, fond of poetry and music, a fine exponent in some of its best aspects of late eighteenth century culture.

Cattle had long been known to suffer from a mild contagion, characterized by the appearance of pustules on the udders and elsewhere, popularly called cowpox. This sometimes spread to human beings through accidental contact, and country people noticed that those

thus infected seemed to become immune to the much more serious human epidemic disease termed smallpox. Jenner was of course familiar with the two conditions and knew of the folk belief in regard to this acquired immunity. In 1796, after due observation and consideration, he inoculated a boy with material from a cowpox lesion on a young woman's arm. The procedure had been carried out before, both in England and on the Continent, but there is no reason to think that Jenner then knew of these previous efforts. His first vaccination being apparently successful, others followed.

Jenner realized the importance of his work and it was done with care. The results were published in 1798 in a small volume which has become one of the most famous of medical books—"An Inquiry into the Causes and Effects of the Variolae Vaccinae". A copy of this beautifully printed and illustrated work may be seen in the Osler Library at McGill University. Reports of the new technique spread rapidly and small supplies of virus soon reached the Continent and other parts of the world. The early strains were obtained from cowpox lesions or from human vaccination sores. It was found that they could be preserved and transmitted in various ways, as by enclosure in a tube or quill, or sealed between little plates of glass, or dried on cloth or thread.

Potency and effectiveness were often accidentally proved by the most drastic of tests—actual contact of the person vaccinated with virulent cases of smallpox. The new method aroused attention and discussion, and, naturally, not infrequently opposition, but as numbers were done and the procedure was found to be generally safe and really protective, it was widely adopted by members of the medical profession and others, often backed by governmental authorities.

An attempt to send lymph to India by sea had shown that it did not survive the heat and the long voyage around the Cape of Good Hope, but some carried overland, in 1801, from Vienna by way of Constantinople to the Persian Gulf and thence to Bombay, arrived safely. Spain despatched a special expedition in 1803 to convey the boon to her wide-flung colonies in the West Indies, South and Central America, and Mexico, and then across the Pacific to China and the Philippines. As the sea voyages were long and through tropical waters, the virus was kept alive by successive transfers in a series of vaccinations. This ingenious method had not been necessary on the shorter and cooler voyages across the North Atlantic.

The first vaccine to reach American shores was probably sent by Jenner himself to a friend and school-fellow who had gone to Newfoundland as a medical missionary. The Rev. John Clinch, M.D. was then living at Trinity, one of the chief outposts of the old Island Colony. As clergyman, physician, and magistrate he had long served his people well. There is good reason to believe that he was the earliest to vaccinate on this side of the Atlantic, probably about 1798. Small quantities of lymph arrived in the United States from England in the summer of 1800, when Dr. Benjamin Waterhouse of Harvard College vaccinated several of his children. The procedure was also carried out by Dr. John Crawford of Baltimore, and others.

The first vaccinations in Canada were done at Quebec in 1801. Col. George Landmann, of the Royal Engineers, received in November of that year a little lymph enclosed between pieces of plate-glass and a letter, illustrated by drawings, describing its application. With it were vaccinated two children of a brother officer, and then, from them,

others. First to use the method in the other British American colonies was Dr. Joseph Norman Bond of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. He received virus from a brother in Bath, a friend of Jenner, and vaccinated his own baby, the future Dr. Joseph Blackburn Bond, in the spring of 1802.

Interest in new ideas and acceptance of new ways accorded well with the temper of the times. Changes in philosophy, politics, manners, industry and transportation were in the air. Europe was in turmoil after the French Revolution and its stupendous overturn of older ideologies. King George the Third was sovereign of the United Kingdom, Thomas Jefferson was President of the new Republic across the Atlantic, Napoleon was the ruler of France. The Industrial Revolution was in full career in England, experiment and invention were changing men's lives, recent discoveries widening their horizons, machinery clattering in new mills, steam already harnessed for power and soon to be successfully applied to vessels and locomotives. Everywhere there was action and reaction, unrest, agitation, violence, and repression, much as it is to-day.

Nearly a century and a half has elapsed since one of the great medical techniques of all time was thus peacefully developed in rural England, and borne across turbulent lands and war-swept seas to benefit humanity in all parts of the world. Down the years the general principles have remained essentially unchanged—the introduction of enough virus through a small break in the skin to set up a mild attack of vaccinia or cowpox, now regarded as really a mitigated variety of smallpox, with resulting immunity. Improvements in preparation and packaging were gradually made, some by Jenner himself. Institutes were organized for the propagation of the virus, the first in America being founded at Baltimore in 1802. Calf lymph became the standard product, thus doing away with the dangers inseparably connected with direct human transfers. An early advance was the use of points of metal or bone, tipped with vaccine, followed later by the little sealed tubules of glycerinated lymph now so familiar.

Certain objections may be urged against the practice of vaccination. Like any other potent procedure it has possibilities of harm as well as of help. The reaction may be unexpectedly severe, the wound may become secondarily infected, a latent focus of tuberculosis or some other chronic condition may be activated, or unforeseen complications, such as encephalitis may develop. Happily all these serious consequences are unusual. Opponents of vaccination, however, should not be treated with ridicule or merely overriden by use of bureaucratic authority. Like the anti-vivisectionists, they are usually sincere and often exceptionally intelligent, and after all it is their children who are involved. Argument should be met with argument. It is a matter of balanced risks. Most of us think that it is better to run the comparatively slight dangers associated with immunization rather than the far greater ones of possible smallpox.

The control of this disease does not of course depend altogether on vaccination. Improvements in sanitation, hygiene, diet, quarantine, and other measures have undoubtedly influenced its incidence, but probably not as much as some would contend. Communities in which most of the people have been vaccinated at least once or twice are relatively free from smallpox, although they suffer from periodical epidemics of other less serious communicable virus diseases, such as chickenpox, mumps and measles, against which mass methods of protection are hardly yet practicable.

Notes From the National Office

Contributed by JEAN S. WILSON,
Executive Secretary, The Canadian Nurses Association

A History of Nursing

The production of a History of Nursing in Canada has been in the minds of members of the Canadian Nurses Association since the foundation of the National Organization. A special study relating to the preparation of such a history was made between 1930 and 1934 following which it was decided that further consideration of the question should be delayed for a time.

At the General Meeting in 1938, a resolution was passed: "that the question of a History of Nursing in Canada be reopened and the appointment of a Committee to study this quesion be left to the Executive Committee".

At the request of the Executive Committee, the following accepted appointment to this Committee: Miss Mary Mathewson (convener), Assistant Director of The School for Graduate Nurses, McGill University; Miss Jean E. Browne, National Director of the Junior Red Cross for Canada, and Miss Jean S. Wilson, Executive Secretary of the Canadian Nurses Association. This Committee is empowered to add to its number as may be deemed advisable.

A preliminary analysis of available data by the Committee showed that further study and research will be necessary before an accurate and complete record of the development of nursing in Canada can be written.

The Committee decided that its first step should be to enlist the co-operation of nurses in all parts of Canada in assembling the necessary material. It was recognized that the interest and assistance of the provincial associations of registered nurses would be required in taking this initial step. Consequently, the following basic plan has been submitted to the provincial associations for their guidance:

1. The preparation of an index or catalogue of historical material now available in the records of the Provincial Association.
2. The enlistment of the co-operation of hospitals and health agencies in the collection of further materials, including photographs.
3. The securing of records of pioneer nursing in the Province.
4. The assembling of biographical sketches and photographs of leaders in the development of nursing in the Province.

It is anticipated that provincial action will be promoted by the appointment of special study committees. However, to assure the success of these groups every nurse throughout the Dominion is asked to realize her personal responsibility toward the eventual compilation of historical data in published form. Every nurse who has in her possession or who comes across information of historical value can be of help if she will communicate with the Secretary of her provincial association. That official will gladly see that all such data is delivered to the special committee.

Many of the older members of the profession are in possession of data which they alone can record. It is realized that no time should be lost in the securing of facts, records and photographs.

Younger members who interest themselves ever so slightly in the gathering together of historical material will soon find that their interest increases and their enthusiasm be keenly aroused toward the passage of events which will eventually find expression in a well-written History of Nursing in Canada.

International Summer Courses

An announcement has been made by the Florence Nightingale International Foundation that the Foundation authorities have under consideration the organization of occasional summer courses in London. The idea is that these courses would be so arranged as to be useful to nurses from all countries and would deal with some particular subject of nursing interest from an international point of view. Suggested subjects are:

1. Nursing Education — Curriculum plans, teaching methods, University connections.
2. Prevention and cure of mental illness.
3. Statistical studies and survey work.
4. Nutrition.
5. Supervision.

It is proposed that the Foundation would invite a nurse of experience and standing to visit London for the purpose of conducting the course and in consultation with her would arrange lectures on the subject by experts from other fields. The courses would be intended for advanced students and certain defined qualifications would be required for admission to them. The courses would cover a period of two or three weeks and would probably be held in June or July.

The cost of organizing such courses would be rather high since nurses from overseas would be invited to give some of the lectures. It is estimated that the total cost of tuition fees for two or three weeks would be $15.00 a week. A large enrolment would mean decreased tuition fees. Board and lodging in London, including incidental expenses would be not less than $20.00 a week.

An enrolment for 1940 must be assured before the Foundation can proceed with definite plans for a Summer Course for that year. The Canadian Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee has been asked to inform the Foundation the approximate number of nurses from Canada who might avail themselves of the opportunity of such a Summer Course in 1940. Early notification by nurses in Canada who wish to enrol will be appreciated by the Secretary of the Canadian Committee, Miss Jean S. Wilson, Suite 401, 1411 Crescent Street, Montreal, P. Q.

Nightingale International Foundation

Contributors to the fund being raised by the Canadian Nurses Association in support of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation will be interested to learn that it is customary for each class of International students to arrange an entertainment for the raising of funds during their year at International House.

Miss Bianca Beyer writes that the entertainment this year was a travelogue called "Around the World in Eighty Minutes" which was presented on two evenings. The travelogue consisted of each student showing and explaining pictures or slides of her country and those students who had national costumes appeared in them. Miss Beyer showed pictures of the places which Their Majesties were to see during their

visit to Canada. International House was decorated to resemble a ship and to make it more realistic the guests had to climb a gang-plank to get upstairs. "The total receipts for the two evenings amounted to £15 so we were very pleased", writes Miss Beyer.

Nightingale Memorial Fund

Contributions to the Florence Nightingale Fund have been received from:

Alberta:

A.A., Royal Alexandra Hospital, Edmonton	$10.00
Graduate Nurses Association, Calgary	10.00
Public Health Nurses, Alberta	11.00
Nursing Staff, Central Alberta Sanatorium, Calgary	4.75
Staff Nurses, University of Alberta Hospital, Edmonton	25.00

British Columbia:

Nelson Graduate Nurses Association	10.00
Prince Rupert General Hospital	10.00
Provincial Mental Hospital, Essondale	9.00
Trail-Rossland Graduate Nurses Association	25.00
Undergraduate Nurses, Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria	20.00
Undergraduate Nurses Society, University of British Columbia	15.00

New Brunswick:

Fredericton Chapter, N.B.A.R.N.	10.00
Moncton Chapter, N.B.A.R.N.	10.00
Saint John Chapter, N.B.A.R.N.	15.00
St. Stephen Chapter, N.B.A.R.N.	5.00
New Brunswick Graduate Nurses	15.75
Graduate Nurse Staff:	
Hotel Dieu, Moncton	2.00
Miramichi Hospital, Newcastle	4.25
Saint John General Hospital, Saint John	11.00
Provincial Hospital, Saint John	10.50
Fisher Memorial Hospital, Woodstock	2.50
Victoria Public Hospital, Fredericton	4.00
Chipman Memorial Hospital, St. Stephen	3.50
Hotel Dieu Hospital, Chatham	5.00
Lancaster Military Hospital, Saint John	2.50
The Moncton Hospital, Moncton	5.00
Saint John Tuberculosis Hospital, Saint John	9.00
A.A., St. John General Hospital, Saint John	10.00
A.A., Chipman Memorial Hospital, St. Stephen	5.00
A.A., Fisher Memorial Hospital, Woodstock	10.00

Nova Scotia:

A.A., Halifax Infirmary, Halifax	5.00
Students and Staff Nurses, Victoria General Hospital, Halifax	15.00

Ontario:

A.A., Brockville General Hospital, Brockville	10.00
A.A., Kingston General Hospital Kingston	10.00
A.A., Woodstock General Hospital, Woodstock	5.00
A.A., Mack Training School, St. Catharines	10.00
Miss Helena Shearer, Fairview Hospital, Great Barrington, Mass.	2.00
Simcoe Nurses Registry, Simcoe	5.00
Student Nurses, Hamilton General Hospital, Hamilton	20.25

Quebec:

A.A., Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal	50.00
L'Association Jeanne Mance des Infirmières Graduées de Hôtel-Dieu de Montréal	5.00
Montreal Unit, Overseas Nursing Sisters Association	3.00
Student Government Association, Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal	50.00
Student Government Association, Jeffery Hale's Hospital, Quebec	10.00

Saskatchewan:

A.A., Regina General Hospital, Regina	10.00
Nursing Staff, The Sanatorium, Fort San	5.00
Saskatoon Registered Nurses Association	10.00
School of Nursing, Holy Family Hospital, Prince Albert	5.00
Staff Nurses, The Sanatorium, Prince Albert	5.00

NOVA SCOTIA ANNUAL MEETING

Miss Muriel Graham, registrar of the Registered Nurses Association of Nova Scotia, presents the following summary of the programme arranged for the Annual Meeting of that Association:

Meetings are to be held at St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, on June 1 and 2, the members of the Antigonish-Guysboro-Inverness-Richmond Branch being the hostesses. The morning of June 1 will be devoted to a meeting of the Executive Committee, beginning at 9 a.m. Registration of members will take place from 1 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. This year we are trying the plan of charging a registration fee of twenty-five cents per member, which is to go to the hostess Branch toward entertainment expenses. At 1.45 p.m., an address of welcome will be given by Mayor A. L. MacIntosh, of Antigonish. Reports and regular business will follow, until 4 o'clock, when Mr. Peter Nearing, of the St. Francis Xavier Extension Department will speak on Co-operative Medicine. At 4.30, the General Session will end, and there will be an Instructors Group Meeting until 5.30 p.m. At 8 p.m. there will be a dinner at the Royal George Hotel, the special speaker being Dr. Charles J. W. Beckwith, of the Department of Public Health, who will speak on "Hospital Help". There will also be a musical programme by the members of St. Martha's School of Nursing.

Friday morning, June 2, will be devoted to reports of special committees, and general business will be concluded after lunch. At 3.30, a drive is planned to Seabright, with tea at Silver Haven, and a sail on Antigonish Harbour.

Miss Rachel Chisholm, of Antigonish, is in charge of local arrangements.

THE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL

Stella Mathews, director of the Honolulu Nursing Bureau, has been awarded the 1939 Florence Nightingale Medal, which is the highest international nursing award. Miss Mathews' outstanding work with the United States Army and the American Red Cross in Europe, particularly in Poland and in Greece, has thus met with the recognition it so richly deserves.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Registered Nurses Association of Prince Edward Island will be held on Tuesday, June 13, at the Charlottetown Hotel. A bright spot in the routine business of the afternoon session will be a talk on our *Journal* by the editor, Miss Ethel Johns, whom "the Island" welcomes for the first time. One of the problems to be discussed at this meeting will be the revision of the Registered Nurses Act. Dr. G. G. Houston, a member of the medical staff of the Prince Edward Island Hospital, will speak on "Chronic Deafness". At the dinner meeting in the evening, Miss Johns will speak on some new trends in nursing under the title of "The way the wind is blowing", and the Reverend Dr. J. A. Murphy, Rector of St. Dunstan's University, will give an address on an educational topic.

On June 14, the nurses will take part in the celebration of the visit of Their Majesties to the Province of Prince Edward Island.

STUDENT NURSES PAGE

A Student Nurse Looks at the Journal

ELEANOR V. SHEPHERD
School of Nursing, Toronto General Hospital

Of what value is *The Canadian Nurse* to the student and to what purpose is she putting it? Before attempting to answer this question, may we acknowledge the untiring effort which one of the instructors of this School has exercised toward stimulating student interest in our national journal? The subscription campaign which she instituted was so effective that a brief explanation might provide a stimulus for others.

After making a survey of the distribution of subscriptions through the School, it was found to be somewhat short of the ideal, which is to make every student sufficiently conscious of her professional obligations toward our only national professional journal, to become a subscriber. Having confronted the aggregate student body at a mass meeting with this point of responsibility toward the official literature of the profession, the instructor considered the practical aspect of cost to the individual student. She argued that if each student did not feel able to subscribe, room mates might share equally, thus reducing the cost to the individual and ensuring the maintenance of a copy of the *Journal* in every room. By taking advantage of the "group of ten" rate of $1.50 per subscription, instead of the usual rate of $2.00, four people could contribute toward one subscription, the cost to each being thirty-seven and a half cents per year. If two people share one subscription, the cost to each is less than one quarter of a cent per day — obviously such a minimum expenditure need not embarrass even the most poverty-stricken of us. The plea was so convincing that it is now felt that there is a monthly copy of *The Canadian Nurse* in practically every student's room in this hospital. The value of being able to read such a *Journal* casually and at one's leisure, instead of hurriedly in a reference room, is self-evident. The editor has honoured us in soliciting our opinion of its value. In reply, we give this brief approximation:

1. It enables the student to broaden her professional outlook by reading of nursing procedures in other hospitals, and in other countries.

2. It gives her some encouragement and inspiration to follow the development and improvement in nursing, both here and abroad.

3. It complements and supplements text-book information and lectures by giving us

the most recent developments in nursing procedures and medical practice.

4. It keeps alive ethical interest by voicing professional grievances and inviting suggestions for improvements.

This is but a brief generalization of our conception of the value of the *Journal*. Now to what purpose are we putting it? We read it casually, choosing whatever articles we fancy, or refer to it for a specific piece of information. In this regard, may we cite instances of the type of information we need, and how it is gathered?

1. A student requires additional information regarding the making of a "burn bed".

2. She needs material for an essay on hospital development in India.

3. She would like some authoritative information on the treatment of schizophrenics with insulin shock.

4. She requires recent statistics concerning the incidence of tuberculosis among nurses.

5. She wishes to find out the names of the personnel of a particular organization—namely, from the official directory.

6. It is an invaluable source of information for nursing studies.

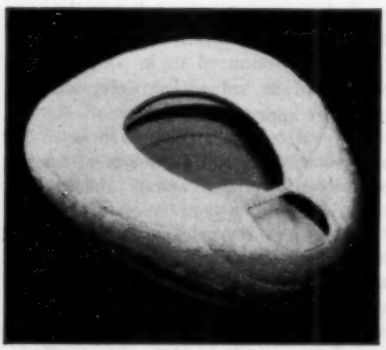
7. The book review and advance notices are a reliable guide to the student who is buying any professional books.

We felt it might be interesting to index all the information available in past and present volumes of *The Canadian Nurse*, on one particular subject and "tuberculosis" was chosen. It was found that between the years 1905 and 1938, ninety-five separate articles on this subject had been published.

In conclusion, may we students emphasize that we are actively aware of the existence of *The Canadian Nurse* and the diverse material which it places at our disposal. May we venture one criticism, which we trust will be regarded as constructive, that the subject index be made fuller and more uniform, thereby making this information more readily accessible for occasions of research and special study.

The "Kovette"

AUGUSTINE RAINBOTH, R.N.
Private Duty Nurse, Montreal, P. Q.



In introducing the "*Kovette*" to the nursing profession, may I thank *The Canadian Nurse* for the privilege of writing this short article about my invention in which I hope to make clear the simplicity and adjustability of my little gadget. I am also greatly indebted to a friend and classmate for the choice of a name for this sanitary bedpan cushion. Genuine interest and encouragement on her part have meant much to my progress and perseverance.

My inspiration came to me in January, 1938, while on night duty with a

very sick patient. On this particular night, the efforts of another nurse and myself to make the bedpan even bearable seemed futile. The situation was distressing and even heart-rending. Pads, of a sort, were being used which formed into a hard lump under the patient's back. The pan was *cold*, for a hurried call left no time to heat it and though the patient did not complain, it was only too evident that he was in great discomfort and suffering.

Bed-sores, often attributed to carelessness, are nothing more than the breaking down of tissues bruised from constant use of a hard, moist bedpan, and in removing the pan I perceived, as all nurses should, the condition of the patient's back — discoloured from pressure and moist with perspiration. A thought struck me, several thoughts, I might say. My brain seemed to hum with ideas at that moment. The oft-repeated wails of the poor sick ones: "Nurse! this pan is so hard" — "My back is broken, nurse!" — "Can't you *do* something about it, nurse!" and many other sad tales only too familiar to all of us. I thought of the skinny backs of the poor men I had nursed — and their epithets! Either too cold or too hot — never right. I decided there and then to *do* something about it.

In the wee small hours of the morning I got down to business with a pencil, a ruler, a piece of brown wrapping paper, and the bedpan. The idea was born that early crisp January morning and two nights later my bedpan cushion was in use. It was a crude thing to be sure, made of an old bath towel and a piece of string, but to my delight, it proved a success and provided a dry comfortable seat for the patient.

I worked for ten months on my new idea turning out different types — and trying out many materials as to washability, etc. My crowning effort was entirely satisfactory and became an indispensable article in our sick-room. I must admit I was elated myself, for I felt I was about to contribute a small service to suffering humanity. Shortly afterward I began taking out my papers for Patents — first in Canada and six months later in the United States of America, and am now fully protected from a commercial point of view.

The use of the *"Kovette"* in the public wards of a hospital will, undoubtedly, entail organizing and planning as well as some initial expense, but the amount of labour saved for the nurse and the comfort enjoyed by the patient would soon compensate for all these preliminary details. My suggestion would be to give very sick patients the preference, if a limited number are to be used. Where unit nursing is fully established there should be little confusion. Otherwise each patient should be allotted a *"Kovette"* as she is a bath towel. The cushion-cover can be adjusted (a matter of two seconds) at the bedside before placing the pan under the patient. *"Kovettes"* are easily washed. It is quite unnecessary to heat the bedpan before applying — thereby saving time and energy.

In private duty service, simplicity is the word. In the home, two or three of these cushions will last through an illness of several months or more if ordinary care is exercised in washing and drying. After an illness these articles then may be boiled and kept for future use. From a humanitarian standpoint, I hope every bedpan will soon wear a bonnet!

Every nurse has felt at some time in her career the urge to devise ways and means to lighten the general routine of bed-side nursing. Many of these women have invented amazing gadgets, but have given away their fine talents and resourcefulness. Where are they now?

Gone with the wind! Nothing to show for their years of magnificent service to the world generally. Why do private duty nurses not get the credit for their own achievements in the nursing profession? Here are the answers to this question:

Long hours and tired nurses.

Lack of facilities for research work among private duty nurses. Eevery other branch is provided for.

At present there is no opportunity for the older private duty nurses, rich in knowledge, in skill, to pass on the fruits of their experience to the coming generation. Quietly growing old, they must stoop to odd jobs, and trust in Providence, in order to exist, instead of being a source of strength and inspiration to the younger nurses.

Nurses! One and all, wake up and live!

A PIONEER IN SCHOOL NURSING

On March 30, 1939, Ella Jamieson died at her home in Toronto. She was born in Barrie, Ontario, and took her professional training in the School of Nursing of the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto. For a few years she practised as a private duty nurse, and in 1910 was appointed as one of the first school nurses working under the direction of the Board of Education in Toronto. She did splendid work and had outstanding success in dealing with many difficult problems in the Hester Home School. Later she was made Supervisor of School Nursing on the city staff, and in 1919 was appointed by the Ontario Department of Education to do survey work with a doctor in rural schools throughout the Province. In 1920, she was made Chief School Nurse and when, in 1924, the work was transferred to the Ontario Department of Health, she continued with this Department in the same capacity until she retired in 1931 because of ill health. In 1927 she held a Rockefeller Foundation travelling scholarship, the first award of its type to be made to a Canadian. Miss Jamieson was president of the Graduate Nurses Association of Ontario for three years and took an active part in securing registration for nurses. At the recent annual meeting of the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario a tribute was paid to her memory by Miss C. E. Brewster, President of the Association.

The Mary Shaw Barrow Nursing Service

The Malbay District of Gaspé is situated by the sea, between Gaspé and the Percé Mountains. In the summer it is one of the most lovely spots in Canada, and affords a wonderful view of Percé Rock. In the winter tremendous storms and heavy snow drifts make travelling difficult, especially among the "back ranges". In this district there is a large English-speaking population as well as a French-speaking one, and in both r ces families are large, so that there are many children.

There is a French hospital at Gaspé, thirty-six miles away, and a Government Health Unit. There is one doctor in the Malbay District, but he has a huge area to cover as the doctor at Cape Cove, miles away across the Percé Mountains, is also the Member of the Provincial Parliament for the constituency of Gaspé South, and has been unable to find medical assistance. There was no English-speaking nurse nearer than Quebec City.

In frequent visits since 1929, the Anglican Bishop of Quebec learned something of these people and their environment. Business conditions are bad in the fishing industry everywhere and Malbay is no exception. Farming is usually poor and there is little other work except lumbering (which is restricted just now) and occasional roadwork. There is an Anglican Mission among these people and it was one of the clergy who, in the winter of 1937, wrote to the Bishop and to the Woman's Auxiliary telling them of health conditions in this district.

The Provincial Government has shown a practical and generous interest in the problems of the Gaspé Coast, and in 1938, Dr. Pouliot, who is the member for Gaspé South, enlisted the

MARY SHAW BARROW

co-operation of the Health Department in obtaining a grant of three hundred dollars. The Woman's Auxiliary of the Diocese granted a like amount and it was thus possible to start a nursing service. The Bishop asked Mrs. Septimus Barrow who, previous to her marriage, was for fourteen years Superintendent of Jeffery Hale's Hospital, whether she would undertake to make the necessary arrangements. A small committee was formed to assist her, consisting of Mrs. Carrington (convener); Mrs. Crowfoot (first vice-president of the Woman's Auxiliary); Miss A. Gibaut (president of the Cathedral Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary and a former president of the Quebec Red Cross Society); and Miss M. McLimont, C.M.B. The work of the Committee chiefly consisted in obtaining the necessary funds

and making the work known to the public.

With characteristic thoroughness, Mrs. Barrow corresponded with the Victorian Order of Nurses in Ottawa and in Montreal, with the Lady Superintendents of the Royal Victoria Hospital and the Montreal General Hospital, and with the McGill School for Graduate Nurses. She was determined to have the best possible nurse to start the Malbay Nursing Service which was a new venture for the Anglican Church in this Diocese. The appointment was finally offered to Miss Adelaide Haggart, B.A., a graduate of the School of Nursing of the Royal Victoria Hospital who had also taken a course in public health nursing at the McGill School for Graduate Nurses.

Until her untimely death on January 22, 1939, Mrs. Barrow gave freely of her wisdom, knowledge, common sense and her unrivalled powers of dealing with people. She was in constant touch with Miss Haggart and gave her every possible assistance. After her death, the Bishop of Quebec consulted her family, the Committee, and the Quebec Red Cross Society and it was decided to give the name of "The Mary Shaw Barrow Nursing Service" to the new venture in memory of one without whose help it would never have been started.

Upon her arrival in June 1938, Miss Haggart found that her work involved much house-to-house visiting. She had no car and between June and December walked six hundred miles in addition to the miles covered by car or by horse and buggy. The Provincial Red Cross Society is now making a grant of twenty dollars a month for travelling expenses and hopes soon to provide a car. The Junior Red Cross are also paying for medical and surgical treatment for a number of children, and have provided a quantity of cod liver oil. Without this assistance Miss Haggart's work would have been much more restricted.

Schools are visited monthly and in one school, where underweight is noted, cocoa made with Klim is served to the children daily. One tubercular clinic has been held, and in co-operation with the Government Health Units, sanitation is inspected and suggestions made for improvement. Water is sent away to be tested, and has sometimes been found definitely harmful. Tubercular patients are supplied with suitable diet provided by the Quebec Committee. During the Christmas season Miss Haggart distributed many gifts, especially among the sick. Clothing has been supplied for three hundred children. Through Mrs. H. H. Gibaut, Municipal Vice-Regent of the I. O. D. E., who is now a member of the Nursing Service Committee, the Provincial Chapter of the I. O. D. E. has sent a large amount of cod liver oil and other supplies to Miss Haggart. The Provincial Government is increasing its grant for 1939 to five hundred dollars and the Dominion Board of the Woman's Auxiliary has granted one hundred dollars.

Since the Nursing Service began last June, it has been remarkable how wonderfully the various groups have worked together. Many generous private subscriptions have been given and, while the future of the work depends on the continuance of this co-operation, the Nursing Service Committee feels that the spirit of Mary Shaw Barrow will live on in this work which she so loved, and that it will endure while it is so much needed.

Editor's Note: This appreciation of the work of Mary Shaw Barrow has been prepared by Mrs. Philip Carrington, who is the wife of the Bishop of Quebec.

OBITUARIES

JOAN ALLAN died recently as the result of an aeroplane accident near Oklahoma City. Miss Allan was a graduate of the chool of Nursing of the Saskatoon City Hospital. At the time of this tragic accident she was on her way to Fort Worth, Texas, in order to bring a patient to Evanston, Illinois, where she made her home and where she had successfully practised her profession for several years.

ELEANOR DOUGLAS (Nursing Sister E. Tomlinson) died recently in Nanaimo, British Columbia. Previous to her marriage, she rendered distinguished military nursing service during the Great War and acted as Matron of the British military hospital at Salonica.

NELLIE GOODHUE died in Montreal on April 18, 1939, in her seventy-sixth year. Miss Goodhue was a member of the first class to graduate from the School of Nursing of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, and in the earlier years of her long and useful professional career, served successively as head nurse in the surgical division of the Roosevelt Hospital, New York, and as supervisor of the preliminary courses in the School of Nursing of the Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland. Subsequently, she returned to the Royal Victoria Hospital in the capacity of instructor and assistant to the superintendent of nurses and will long be remembered for the outstanding contribution which she made as a teacher as well as an administrator. For several years Miss Goodhue served as president of her Alumnae Association and, at the time of her death, she held the distinction of being its honourary president.

LENA MURRAY, a graduate of the School of Nursing of the Saint John General Public Hospital, and a member of the Class of 1897, died recently at her home in Saint John, New Brunswick.

ADA TAPLEY, a graduate of the School of Nursing of the Saint John General Public Hospital, and a member of the Class of 1901, died recently at her home in Saint John, New Brunswick.

VICTORIAN ORDER OF NURSES FOR CANADA

Miss Eileen Bretzlaff has been admitted to the Galt Branch. *Miss Margaret Carrothers* has been admitted to the London Branch.

Miss Gladys Clarke has been transferred from Vancouver to Edmonton. *Miss Ada Benvie* has been transferred from Victoria to Wolfville. *Miss Marion Shore* has been transferred from Wolfville to Halifax. *Miss Flora Macdonald* has been transferred from Vancouver to Burnaby. *Miss Mary Scott* has been transferred from Galt to Hamilton.

Miss Margaret Grieve has resigned from the York Township Branch and from the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada. *Miss Mary Bonner* has resigned from the Burnaby Branch and from the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada.

A CUP OF TEA

Not long ago we were gently taken to task by a valued reader who lives in China, for one of our many editorial lapses. Having performed the necessary act of contrition, we went our way in a chastened frame of mind, resolved to lead a better life. Imagine our surprise when our humility was rewarded by a charming letter and a gift which is best described in the words of the giver:

We are sending you a small package of our very best Chinese tea — at least considered so by those who are supposed to know. Please first make your teapot hot, and then pour out the hot water and while it is still steaming, put in a few leaves, according to the size of the teapot, then quickly fill it with fresh and boiling water. Cover, and let it stand for ten minutes. Drink with no sugar or cream. Drop in a piece of orange if you wish. If you were here we would take you to dinner at the restaurant where Lin Yutang enjoys his meals so much.

Needless to say, the preparation and drinking of this tea will be undertaken with due ceremony. On a summer Sunday afternoon, under the shade of the locust tree which overhangs our little balcony, we shall pour it out of a Chinese teapot, more than a hundred years old, into an eggshell china cup without any handles. Soothed by the drowsy hum of the bees in the flowering branches, we shall sip it very slowly, meditating the while, with Lin Yutang, on the importance of living.

CANADIANS ATTEND N. L. N. E.

Miss Kathleen Ellis, registrar of the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association, and Miss Gertrude Hall, executive-secretary of the Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses, were privileged to attend the forty-fifth annual convention of the National League of Nursing Education, held in New Orleans. It was a delightful and inspiring experience. A most interesting programme included able speakers on a wide variety of subjects, and the study and discussion of developments of vital concern to nursing education and professional interests. The atmosphere was colourful and the setting and hospitality unique in the beautiful old city

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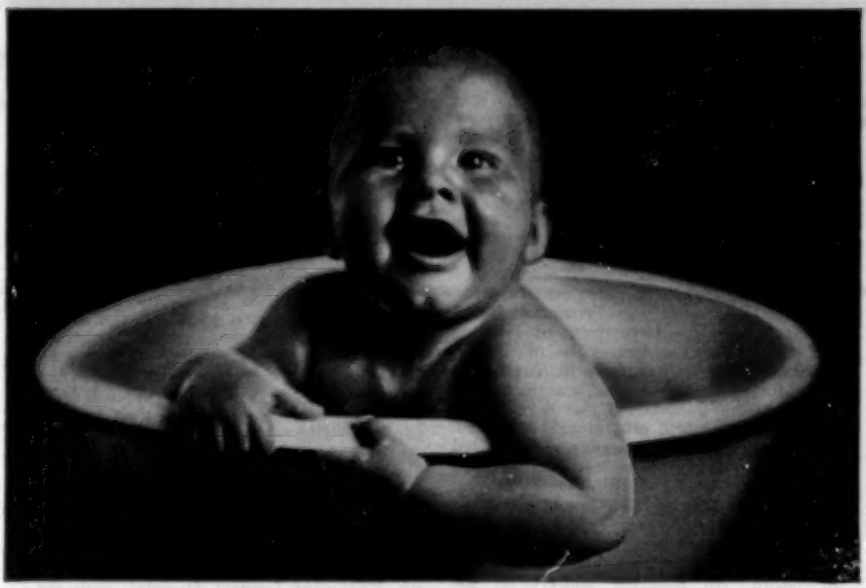
A HAPPY OCCASION

The fortieth anniversary of the Nursing Education Division of Teachers College, Columbia University, will be celebrated October 13 and 14, 1939, following the fiftieth anniversary of Teachers College on October 12. A committee of representative nursing education alumnae has been appointed and plans are now being made for the meetings in New York and for branch meetings to be arranged on the same dates by alumnae groups in different sections of the country. In order to have a correct list of addresses, former students who have changed their permanent address since they left the college are asked to send a postcard to the Nursing Education office at Teachers College, as soon as possible, stating where individual communications may be sent. It is hoped that as many as possible of the former students now resident in Canada will be able to participate in this celebration.



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NEWS NOTES

BRITISH COLUMBIA

VANCOUVER:

The annual Public Health Conference under the auspices of the Provincial Board of Health and the Department of Nursing and Health of the University of British Columbia, was held recently in Vancouver. The aim of the conference was to review the problems involved in the development of community health programmes in British Columbia. The opening session was devoted to the scope of preventive medicine, and was presided over by Dr. H. E. Young, Provincial Health Officer. Dr. Young gave the address of welcome with his usual enthusiasm which has remained unabated throughout his many years of service in the interest of health. An inspiring address on the achievement and objectives of preventive medicine was presented by Dr. C. E. Dolman. This was followed by an address by Mr. W. A. Morrison who described the activities of Alexandra Neighbourhood House, an undertaking which is doing much to provide a well-rounded life for the adults and children in the community it serves.

Community health problems were discussed from various angles by Miss Heather Kilpatrick, Dr. J. M. Hershey, Dr. J. A. Taylor and Dr. J. S. Kitching. The problem of public health education was presented from the viewpoint of the press by Mrs. R. M. Myers of the Daily Province staff, and from the standpoint of the radio by Mr. J. R. Finlay, programme director of Station C.B.R. The psychology of salesmanship was ably presented by Dr. J. E. Morsch. The preparation of displays was demonstrated by Mr. George Mitchell of the staff of David Spencers. Two attractive displays were put together with such rapidity and ease as to make the observers feel that they too might be able to arrange a health exhibit if the occasion arose.

The final session was devoted to relationships and problems of co-operation between public health and welfare services by Dr. George Davidson and Miss Amy Edwards, followed by an address on "Problems in Demography" by Mr. J. T. Marshall. A well attended luncheon meeting was addressed by Dr. R. A. Wilson on "Pitfalls in Pediatric Practice".

Vancouver General Hospital:

The Alumnae Association of the Vancouver General Hospital has recently issued the second number of "News from your Alumnae", which is being sent to all graduates whose addresses are known. The little magazine, whose first page states it is "to be published from time to time", includes news of Alumnae activities, social events, personals, and a directory of graduates. Graduates of the Vancouver General Hospital are asked to send in their present name and address to the Association.

Vancouver Graduate Nurses Association:

The April meeting of the Vancouver Graduate Nurses Association was held at the Vancouver General Hospital, with the president, Miss Mabel F. Gray, presiding. Miss Margaret Kerr gave an interesting address on sex education. A short talk on the use of Avertin was given by Miss H. Keeler. A social hour followed.

Married: On May 2, 1939, Miss Verna Margaret Vandervoort (Vancouver General Hospital) to Dr. Neil Alexander Stewart.

Married: On May 3, 1939, Miss Marjorie Lucille Watson (St. Paul's Hospital) to Mr. James Gordon Ebert.

Married: On May 4, 1939, Miss Florence Renn Hall (St. Paul's Hospital) to Mr. Chas. Frank McClure.

NEW BRUNSWICK

SAINT JOHN:

The regular monthly meeting of the Saint John Chapter of the N.B.A.R.N. was held recently at the Saint John General Hospital with the president, Miss Margaret Murdoch, in the chair. The programme of the evening was arranged by Miss Florence Coleman, convener of the Educational Section. Two nurses from the staff of the Saint John Tuberculosis Hospital gave interesting papers, Miss Regina Reid dealing with bronchoscopic work and Miss Estella Hayes with extra-pleural pneumothorax.

The drawing that is being conducted by the Chapter on behalf of the Sick Nurses Benefit Fund is to be closed at the next meeting, when the drawing will take place.

MONCTON:

The regular monthly meeting of the Moncton Chapter of the N.B.A.R.N. was held

Distressing Menopausal Symptoms

NEED NOT BE BORNE

THE LIST of clinical papers attesting the clinical value of estrogenic substance in alleviating the vasomotor symptoms of the menopause is very substantial in number. One of the latest contributions is that of Hawkinson.[1]

Summarizing the experience of six years, during which period 1000 patients with the menopausal syndrome were observed, he writes: "The percentage of women having distressing symptoms during the climacteric has been greatly underestimated. The tradition that they must be borne is unsound, for the administration of estrogenic preparations is rational and relieves the symptoms in a great majority of cases."

He further states: "Treatment should be instituted as soon as symptoms appear. Dosage must be adequate and treatment should be continued until the patient remains free from symptoms without therapy. Higher doses are usually required in patients with artificial menopause."

Amniotin is a highly purified preparation of naturally occurring estrogenic substances. It is a council-accepted product. It is available in 1-cc. ampuls, containing 2000, 5000, 10,000, and 20,000 I. U., and in Capsules and Pessaries containing 1000 and 2000 I. U. Amniotin also has been widely and successfully used (by vaginal administration) in treating gonorrheal vaginitis in children.

[1] Hawkinson, L. F.: *J. A. M. A.* 111:390, July 30, 1938.

For literature address 36 Caledonia Road, Toronto.

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B. One-year certificate courses for graduate nurses. These are as follows:

1. Public Health Nursing: a preparation for generalized work.
2. Hospital Staff Nurses' Course: preparation for teaching and supervisory work in the hospital and the nursing school.
3. Special Studies for advanced students in further preparation for service in public health, hospital or nursing school.

C. Extension and Refresher courses. These are short courses for which no certificate is given. The following are planned for 1939-40:

1. Mental Hygiene. October 18-21, 1939.
2. Hospital Administration. November 6-25, 1939.
3. Obstetrical Nursing. January 22-27, 1940.
4. Administrative Problems in Public Health Nursing Practice. May 15-18, 1940.

For further information address:

The Secretary

School of Nursing

University of Toronto

recently in the Moncton Hospital with the president, Miss Emma Honeywell, in the chair. After the regular business meeting was concluded, the members had the pleasure of hearing a most interesting address, delivered by Dr. A. Raymond Landry his subject being "The Philosophy of Death."

ST. STEPHEN:

A regular meeting of the Local Chapter of the N.B.A.R.N. was held recently at the Chipman Memorial Hospital. There was a large attendance of members who greatly enjoyed the lecture given by Dr. Norman Cobb on "The uses and benefits of duodenal suction in post-operative surgery". A demonstration of the new duodenal suction machine recently purchased by the hospital was shown by Dr. Cobb, assisted by Miss Reta Follis, superintendent of nurses. Dr. Cobb, was tendered a hearty vote of thanks. Refreshments were served by Mrs. James Mitchell and Mrs. Herman Lawrence.

Miss Jennie Barnes and Miss Betty Paul recently left for Cleveland, Ohio, where they have accepted positions on the staff of the Grace Hospital. Many nurses were at the terminal to bid them "bon voyage".

NOVA SCOTIA

HALIFAX:

At the April meeting of the Halifax Infirmary Alumnae Association, an important amendment to the by-laws was approved by a unanimous vote. A portion of this amendment reads as follows: "After 1939, only those graduates of the Halifax Infirmary Training School for Nurses, who are in good standing in the Registered Nurses Association of Nova Scotia, shall be eligible for membership in the Alumnae Association."

In connection with the beginning of a Student's Library a paper on "Reading for Nurses" was given by one of the members. The article on "Books and Music" from the March issue of *The Canadian Nurse* was read in its entirety. This was followed by an interesting review of Anne Morrow Lindbergh's book, "North to the Orient". Arrangements are now being made to join one of the Book Clubs, and already the price of our first book has been donated by one of the Alumnae members.

ONTARIO

District 1

District 1, R.N.AO., recently held a most interesting and instructive refresher course in London and Windsor, convened by Miss Mildred Walker, in London, and by Major Doris Barr, in Windsor. A two-day course on pneumonia and psychology was held at the Institute of Public Health, London, with an attendance of sixty-two. Dr. Frank Kennedy spoke on the clinical aspects of pneumonia, and Dr. E. P. Johns on the laboratory aspects. Lectures and demonstrations on the nursing aspects were given by Miss F. P. Quigley and members of the nursing staff of Victoria Hospital. Tea was served by Miss Hilda Stuart and her staff. On the second day, Dr. Hobbs, Director of Mental Health Clinics, Western Ontario, spoke on "Understanding the Neurotic", and Miss Margaret Sparling on "Child Training for Mental Health". In the afternoon, a visit was paid to the Ontario Hospital when Miss Catharine Howard spoke on the use of Metrazol in the treatment of the mentally ill. A demonstration and presentation of case histories was given by Dr. Keith McGregor. Tea was served by Miss Lorna Horwood and her staff.

The two-day course in Windsor was held at Hôtel-Dieu Hospital with an attendance of eighty-seven. The programme on obstetrics was arranged by Dr. R. B. Robson under the following headings: *prenatal care*, Dr. W. M. Master; *the kidney in pregnancy*, Dr. R. B. Robson; *heart disease, tuberculosis, and anaemia in pregnancy*, Dr. G. A. McTague; *analgesics and anaesthesia in labour*, Dr. Neil MacDonald; *puerperal sepsis*, Dr. G. E. Turner; *post-partum haemorrhage*, Dr. R. E. Taylor; *caesarean section*, Dr. L. J. Gerard. Moving pictures were also shown. On the second day, Dr. Hobbs, of London, spoke on "Understanding the neurotic" and Miss Sparling on "Child training for mental health". In the afternoon the members visited the Essex County Sanatorium. Dr. McNeely and Dr. Pyle gave a most interesting talk and a demonstration of pneumothorax. Tea was served by Miss Irene Doris and the staff of the Essex County Sanatorium.

District 4

HAMILTON:

There was a large attendance (180 members) at the regular quarterly meeting of District 4, R.N.A.O., held on April 25 at the General Hospital, Hamilton. Miss Isobel MacIntosh was in the chair, and reports

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were read from the various committees. Miss Jean I. Gunn, superintendent of nurses, Toronto General Hospital, was the speaker of the evening, and gave a most helpful talk on "Nursing Associations". The speaker stressed the importance of the Alumnae Association but explained that it is necessary to have further organization to express the considered opinion of the nursing profession, especially for purposes of legislation. Miss Gunn's paper was very much appreciated by all the members. Miss E. Buckbee read the paper on "Insurance for Nurses" which she gave at the annual meeting of the R.N.A.O. The conclusion reached was that Canadian Government Annuities were the best form of insurance for nurses. Miss I. McKenty was appointed publicity representative. Miss E. Ebbage was appointed convener and Miss C. Sheridan, of Hamilton, as representative to *The Canadian Nurse*. At the conclusion of the meeting a delightful tea was served by Miss Brewster and her staff. The next meeting will be held in June.

District 5

Toronto:

Toronto East General Hospital:

Miss Freda Gregory has resigned as supervisor of the out-patient department of the Toronto East General Hospital and is succeeded by Miss Lillian Wood. Miss Gregory will take a post-graduate course in obstetrics at the Royal Victoria Montreal Maternity Hospital. Miss Gregory has been appointed to the staff of the Church of England Hospital at Kangia, India, and leaves in the near future to take up her duties.

Married: On April 29, 1939, Miss Genevieve Matthews (T.E.G.H., 1938) to Dr. Eric O. F. Campbell.

District 7

Kingston:

The Alumnae Association of the School of Nursing of the Kingston General Hospital recently held a "dutch treat" supper and bridge. Plans were completed for the bridge and drawings for a cedar chest.

Nurses were chosen for duty at nursing posts throughout the city upon the occasion of the visit of Their Majesties.

Perth:

Miss Ada McIntyre (K.G.H., 1934), who has received a diploma for X-ray work, has accepted a position in the X-ray department of the Great War Memorial Hospital.

District 8

Ottawa Civic Hospital:

In order to raise funds for the Sick Benefit Fund, the Alumnae Association of the Ottawa Civic Hospital School of Nursing recently presented a play, "I'll Leave it to You", by Noel Coward, at the Little Theatre. Those taking part were Misses Ernestine Robidoux, Ruth Ebinger, Evelyn Pepper, Dorothy Moxley, Kathryn Moloney, Dorothy Wallace; Messrs. Ralph McPherson, J. R. E. Morden, Cecil Storr, and F. V. B. Riddell.

Miss Vielda Watkins (O.C.H., 1935) has been appointed as night supervisor in the Kitchener-Waterloo General Hospital, Kitchener. Miss Ina Wood of the staff of the Ottawa Civic Hospital is spending the summer abroad.

Married: On April 15, 1939, Miss Muriel Hodgins (O.C.H., 1935) to Mr. Kenneth Bews.

Married: On April 28, 1939, Miss Celia Woodburn (O.C.H., 1934) to Mr. William Abra.

Ottawa General Hospital:

The officers of the Alumnae Association of the Ottawa General Hospital for the coming year are as follows: Honourary president, Rev. Sr. Flavie Domitille; president, Miss May Landreville; first vice-president, Miss J. Sabourin; second vice-president, Miss A. Proulx; secretary-treasurer, Miss R. Macdonald; councillors: Rev. Sr. Flavie, Miss A. Clarke, Miss M. Prindeville, Miss R. Therrien, Miss J. Larochelle, Mrs. Kavanagh; membership secretary, Miss Irene Rogers; representatives to the Central Registry: Miss Landreville, Miss F. Nevins, Miss J. Stock; representative to *The Canadian Nurse*, Miss Joan Mulvihill.

Miss Jeannine Coupal and Miss Margaret Philipps, both of the Class of 1937, are at present attending the School for Graduate Nurses, McGill University, and are taking the public health nursing course. Miss Loretta Hurley, Class of 1935, has been appointed directress of studies at the Timmins General Hospital. Miss Victoria Belier, past president of the Alumnae Association, is assistant superintendent of the Ottawa Isolation Hospital. Miss Therese Therrien, Class of 1937, is on the staff of the Victorian Order of Nurses, and is stationed at Lachine. Miss Claire Lamoureux, Class of 1938, has been appointed to the staff of the Boston Dispensary.

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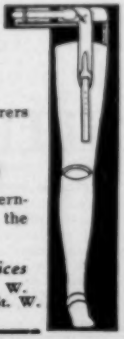

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District 9

North Bay:

The annual meeting of the North Bay Chapter, District 9, R.N.A.O., was held recently at St. Joseph's Hospital with the retiring chairman, Mrs. J. W. Lee, presiding, routine business was discussed and the election of officers for the ensuing year followed. The officers elected were: chairman, Miss Marie A. Cloutier; vice-chairman, Miss Gertrude Johnston; secretary-treasurer, Miss Ruth Taylor. The conveners of special committees are: private duty, Miss E. Cravei; public health, Miss Jean Scrymgeour; membership, Rev. Sister Felicitas; representative to *The Canadian Nurse* and to the press, Miss K. Mackenzie; nurse education, Rev. Sister St. Erma; social, Miss Helen Jordan.

With the newly elected chairman, Miss M. Cloutier, presiding, plans were made for an educational meeting under the convenership of Sister St. Erma to be held at St. Joseph's Hospital, when a report of the convention of the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario will be given, and a plan for group study of *The Canadian Nurse* will be arranged.

QUEBEC

Montreal:

Royal Victoria Hospital:

The graduating exercises of the School of Nursing took place on May 4 and, in the presence of a large audience, sixty-two nurses received their diplomas. Dr. W. W. Chipman presided, and the diplomas were presented by Mrs. Grant, the Warden of the Royal Victoria College. The address to the graduating class was made by Dr. Wilder Penfield. Lady Meredith presented the prizes.

There was an attendance of about 225 at the highly successful dinner given by the Alumnae Association in honour of the graduating class.

At a recent metting Dr. C. P. Pierce, Director of the Department of Radiology, spoke most interestingly on "The role of radiology in disease".

Married: Recently, Miss Janet McCulloch (R.V.H., 1933) to Mr. C. Jackson.

Married: Recently, Miss Ina Celeste Colpitts (R.V.H., 1936) to Mr. P. J. Elliott.

McGill University, School for Graduate Nurses:

Miss Anne Slattery, who was at one time assistant director of the McGill University School for Graduate Nurses, has resigned her position as health nurse with the Public

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Health Department of Hants and Kings counties to take charge of the first Red Cross Outpost Hospital to be established in Nova Scotia. The new five-bed hospital is located at Dingwall.

Miss Kathleen Hill (Administration, 1929) has recently been appointed superintendent of nurses of the Colchester County Hospital, Truro. Miss Hazel MacDonald (Public Health, 1935) is attending the School of Nursing of the University of Toronto, and will later go to New York under a Rockefeller Travelling Scholarship. She returns as supervisor in Cape Breton.

The students of the School entertained recently at a tea at the Themis Club. Graduates who have recently visited the School are Miss Muriel Hunter, Woodstock; Miss Adelaide Haggart, Malbay, Gaspé; Miss Ellen Reid, Halifax; and Miss Kathleen Hill, Truro.

Married: Recently, Miss Irene McCormack (Public Health, 1938) to Mr. George Kennedy.

Married: Recently, Miss Marion Bie (Teaching and Supervision, 1935) to Mr. Harold Wright.

Montreal General Hospital:

Married: On April 10, 1939, Miss Pauline E. E. Smith (M.G.H., 1936) to Dr. Herbert B. McGregor.

Married: On April 15, 1939, Miss Jessie M. Wim (M.G.H., 1927) to Mr. John McN. Allen.

Married: On April 29, 1939, Miss Frances M. Alcombrack (M.G.H., 1920) to Mr. Alfred Lee Windsor.

QUEBEC CITY:

Jeffery Hale's Hospital:

The X-ray department of the Jeffery Hale's Hospital has been completely renovated and enlarged by the addition of technical equipment, including an X-ray diagnostic machine as well as a deep-therapy machine. These are the gift of Mr. Frank Ross, and complete our department of physiotherapy. Dr. Elliott, the radiologist, explained the use and advantages of this new equipment at the May meeting of the Alumnae Association.

Miss Pearl D'Aubin (J.H.H., 1937) has accepted a position on the staff of the Montreal Children's Hospital.

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Attending the meetings . . . of the R.N.A.O. . . . is always an edifying experience . . . and we invariably return . . . to our editorial labours . . . resolved to do a better job . . . This time we found to our dismay . . . that among other errors and omissions . . . we had not been sufficiently alive . . . to certain cultural opportunities . . . of which we stand sorely in need . . . We did not even know . . . that the Royal Ontario Museum . . . possesses one of the most remarkable collections . . . of Chinese art . . . in the whole wide world . . . but thanks to a happy accident . . . this abysmal ignorance . . . is now a thing of the past . . . Instead of entertaining their guests . . . in an atmosphere of synthetic grandeur . . . at a fashionable hotel . . . the members of District Five invited us to visit the Museum . . . and to share in a treasure hunt . . . which guided us through . . . a labyrinth of beauty . . . leading back through the centuries . . . to a civilization which was in full flower . . . when our ancestors . . . were living on acorns . . . and painting themselves with woad . . . Arranged wtih exquisite artistry . . . were the porcelains . . . peach bloom and powder blue . . . the Green Vase . . . the Black Vase . . . the White Celadon Stoneware . . . Strangest of all . . . a miniature compound of Chinese houses . . . the threshold guarded by servants . . . and two fierce dogs . . . Here in amazing detail . . . was the dwelling of a great Prince . . . So greatly had he loved it . . . in his lifetime . . . that even in death . . . the symbol of it . . . went with him to his grave . . . Of the Prince himself . . . and of his grand house . . . nothing remains . . . except this work of art . . . so subtly fragile and impermanent . . . that, in irony, Time itself has passed it by . . . As we gazed at it . . . we wondered what symbol . . . we would choose . . . to carry with us . . . beyond the Gate of Death . . . We never had a house . . . or a servant . . . or even a dog . . . but all of a sudden . . . we knew which of our earthly possessions . . . we wanted most to keep . . . Having made this momentous decision . . . we took a good long look . . . at a little cat . . . cunningly carved . . . out of green jade . . . If the Royal Ontario Museum . . . would have let us take it out of its cabinet . . . and balance it . . . just for a moment . . . in the palm of one hand . . . it could have told us . . . something of the mystery . . . of every cat . . . that ever lived . . . But the cabinet remained closed . . . so we went downstairs . . . and discovered that a sumptuous tea . . . was being served . . . under the friendly shadow . . . of a large stuffed moose . . . The noble animal . . . looked very solid and Canadian . . . but not at all cultured . . . In the reassuring presence . . . of this kindred spirit . . . we meditatively devoured . . . a number of sandwiches . . . But on our homeward way . . . we found ourselves still thinking . . . of that little green jade cat . . . which we shall never hold . . . balanced in the palm . . . of one hand . . . E. J.

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